

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 4278 ACTION SECSTATE INFO SANTIAGO

DATED 7 JUN 75

QUOTE

UNCLAS GENEVA 4278

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO PORG

SUBJ: ILO: 196TH SESSION OF GOVERNING BODY

1. SUMMARY:

THE 196TH SESSION OF THE ILO GOVERNING BODY AND ITS COMMITTEES MET MAY 26 THROUGH MAY 31 IN THE ILO GENEVA HEADQUARTERS, MAJOR GB ACTIONS OF CONCERN TO U.S. WERE ON: (1) THE REPORTS OF THE FACT FINDING AND CONCILIATION COMMISSION ON FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION IN CHILE AND OF COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON CHILE'S OBSERVANCE OF ILO CONVENTIONS NO. 1 AND NO. 111 (GB 196/4/9 AND 10); (2) ACTION ON THE ANTI-ISRAEL RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE 59TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE IN JUNE 1974 (GB 196/20/2); (3) THE PROPOSED 1976 WORLD CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT, INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS AND SOCIAL PROGRESS AND THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR (GB 196/2/7); AND (4) ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAM, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

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2. ACTION ON CHILE:

A. THE WORKERS INITIATED DEBATE, STATED THAT ACTION PARAGRAPH 5 OF GB 196/4/9 WAS NOT STRONG ENOUGH AND PRESENTED AMENDMENTS CONTAINING MUCH TOUGHER LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD: (A) NOTE THE REPORT

"WITH GRAVE CONCERN"; (B) CALL UPON CHILE TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION "WITHOUT DELAY" AND INFORM THE DG BY OCTOBER 1 OF ACTION TAKEN; (C) REQUEST DG TO PUBLICIZE THE REPORT AND TRANSMIT IT TO THE 1975 ILO CONFERENCE, THE U.N., AND TO GOVERNMENTS, AND WORKER AND EMPLOYER ORGANIZATIONS; AND (D) REQUIRE THE DG TO SUBMIT FULL REPORT TO NOVEMBER 1975 GB SESSION ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY CHILE TO CARRY OUT THE RECOMMENDATIONS. B. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE SPEAKING FOR THE RECORD AND ON THE REPORT AND THE WORKERS' AMENDMENT, FOLLOWING WHICH, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 26 OF THE ILO CONSTITUTION, CHILEAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

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LUIS BIBALTA PUIG, UNDERSECRETARY OF LABOR, MADE RESTRAINED AND CONCILIATORY REPLY AND SPOKE AT LENGTH ON THE REPORTS. HE SAID THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN CHILE NECESSITATED CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL ACTIONS; GOC WAS ACTING TO RESTORE AND STRENGTHEN TRADE UNION RIGHTS, GOC WANTED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ILO IN FINDING SOLUTIONS, AND GOC WAS WILLING TO ACCEPT PARA 5 OF GB 196/4/9 IN ORIGINAL FORM, BUT NOT AS AMENDED BY WORKERS.

C. THE WORKERS AMENDMENT WAS SOFTENED BY MORGAN (GOVERNMENT DELEGATE UK) AND PARODI (GOVERNMENT DELEGATE FRANCE) AND BY THE EMPLOYERS. THE EMPLOYERS' AMENDMENT NOTED TWIFTH SATISFACT ION

THAT CHILE HAD REPLIED FAVORABLEY TO GB REQUEST THAT CHILE RECEIVE FACT FINDING COMMISSION AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT IN FUTURE, ALL REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY GB CONCERNING HUMAN AND TRADE UNION RIGHTS WOULD BE RECEIVED IN SAME WAY BY THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED.

D. WORKERS ACCEPTED FIRST PART EMPLOYERS' AMENDMENT BUT SUGGESTED THAT SECOND PART ON ON FUTURE TRADE UNION RIGHTS CASES NOT BE PART OF ACTION ON CHILE CASE, AND MERELY SHOW IN GB RECORD AS STATEMENT OF THE EMPLOYER GROUP. EMPLOYERS AGREED IF RECORD ALSO SHOWED THEIR STATEMENT REQLECTED THE HOPE OF THE GB AS A WHOLE. GOVERNMENTS OF USSR, UKRAINE, POLAND, BULGARIA AND USSR WORKER PIMENOV SPOKE HARSHLE AGAINST EMPLOYER STATEMENT; AND ONLY USDEL AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH EMPLOYER STATEMENT. COMMENT: USDEL BELIEVES THAT FAILURE OF WORKERS GROUP AND ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTS, ESPECIALLY OF WE, TO UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THIS EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR ILO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION PROCEDURES (WHICH EMPLOYER GROUP HAD COPIED FROM STATEMENT OF FORMER WORKER GROUP SPOKESMAN JEAN MORI WHEN JAPAN WAS FIRST GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT AND RECEIVE AN ILO FACT FINDING AND CONCILIATION COMMISSION), IN THE FACE OF HOSTILE EE REACTION, IS SORRY DEMONSTRATION OF DEGREE TO WHICH DOUBLE STANDARD ON PROTECTION OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS IS ACCEPTED AND PRACTICED BY THE ILO MEMBERSHIP. END COMMENT.

E. PROVISION TEXT OF AMENDED PARA 5 FOLLOWS:

"THE GOVERNING BODY DECIDES:

A) TO NOTE WITH GRAVE CONCERN THE COMMISSION'S REPORT.

B) TO CALL UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE TO IMPLEMENT (AS SOON AS POSSIBLE) THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION AND TO GIVE

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL A PROGRESS REPORT NOT LATER THAN 1 OCTOBER 1975 ON THE ACTION TAKEN.

(C) TO REQUEST THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO PROVIDE THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT WITH COPIES OF THE REPORT AND ASK IT TO TAKE THE NECESSARY MEASURES FOR ITS WIDEST DISTRIBUTION IN CHILE.

(D) TO TRANSMIT THE REPORT:

(I) TO THE 1975 SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE;

(II) TO THE UNITED NATIONS;

(III) TO ALL MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF THE ILO AND TO ORGANIZATIONS OF EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS; AND

(IV) TO PUBLIC INFORMATION MEDIA.

(E) TO ASK THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO SUBMIT TO THE NOVEMBER 1975 SESSION A FULL REPORT OF THE ACTION BY CHILE TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

(F) TO TAKE NOTE OF THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE HAS REPLIED FAVORABLE TO THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNING BODY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SETTING UP AND OPERATION OF THE FACT-FINDING AND CONCILIATION COMMISSION ON FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION.

(THIS TEXT SUPPLIED BY OFFICE, BUT STILL SUBJECT TO MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGE.)

3. DIRECTOR GENERAL'S ACTION ON ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLUTION OF 1974 CONFERENCE

A. DG HAD PLACED REPORT (GB 196/20/2) NEAR THE END OF THE PLENARY AGENDA. THUS, THE PAPER WAS NOT DISCUSSED UNTIL LATE SATURDAY AFTERNOON, LIMITING THE TIME FOR DEBATE ON THE ISSUE.

B. STATEMENTS OF ARAB GOVERNMENTS, EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS, REINFORCED BY STATEMENTS OF JEWISH GOVERNMENTS AND USSR WORKER UNCLASSIFIED

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PIMENOV, ALL HIGHLY CRITICAL OF ILO/DG FOR LACK OF PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING 1974 RESOLUTION. NO BLACK AFRICANS SPOKE ON THIS ISSUE. USDEL TEN NOTED THAT COMPLAINANTS OF ISRAEL'S ALLEGED DENIAL OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS HAD NOT SEEN FIT OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS TO FILE COMPLAINT UNDER ILO'S FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION PROCEDURES. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF WHICH HAD JUST BEEN DEMONSTRATED IN THE CASE OF CHILE. IF THEY HAD CHOSEN TO SUE THIS MACHINERY, AND THE ALLEGATIONS HAD BEEN TREATED SUBSTANTIVELY RATHER THAN POLITICALLY, THE SITUATION MIGHT BE QUITE DIFFERENT TODAY, AND THIS SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND IN ASSESSING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ALLEGEDLY UNSATISFACTORY STATE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL'S ACTION ON THIS ISSUE. PAPER WAS THEN NOTED WITHOUT MODIFICATION.

4. PROPOSED AGENDA AND TIMING FOR ILO WORLD CONFERENCE

A. NEW PROPOSAL BY DG FOR ILO WORLD CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT, EIO, (GB 196/2/7) ESTABLISHES FOLLOWING PROCEDURE AND TIMING:

(1) OPENING OF ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE AND HOLDING OF PRELIMINARY MATTERS FOR FIRST TWO DAYS;

(2) OPENING OF WORLD CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT ON THIRD DAY;

(3) HOLDING OF WORLD CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT FOR TWO WEEKS IN MIDDLE OF ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE, WITH ONLY ACTIVITIES OF THE ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE BEING MEETINGS OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEES WITH

SMALLER NUMBER OF ITEMS THAN USUAL;

(4) AFTER CONCLUSION OF WORLD CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT, ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE WILL CONTINUE.

B. THE AGENDA FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE WOULD BE REDUCED, AND WOULD NOT CONTAIN PROVISION FOR COMMENTS ON THE DG'S REPORT FOR A RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE. USDEL SUPPORTED ELIMINATION OF THESE TWO ITEMS.

C. DEBATE ON WORLD CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT TOOK UP MOST OF FIRST DAY OF PLENARY. MOST OF THE MEMBERS OF GB WHO SPOKE INDICATED THEY STILL HAVE RESERVATIONS ON THE CONFERENCE.

5. PROGRAM, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

A. PFA COMMITTEE MET TWICE UNDER AD HOC CHAIRMANSHIP OF JOHN MAINWARING, CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE.

B. ON CHANGING ILO BUDGET TO SWISS FARNCS (GB 195/PFA/9/13) DIRECTOR GENERAL CONCLUDED THAT SINCE THERE ARE NO CLEAR ADVANTAGES TO SUCH ABOVE, THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO MAKE IT. USDEL URGED THAT SHOULD ITEM BE REOPENED IN FUTURE, CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO WISHES OF SWISS GOVERNMENT.

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C. DIRECTOR GENERAL NOTED THAT CY 1975 PAYMENTS FROM MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS ARE COMING IN SLOWLY AND SAID THAT IF THEY DO NOT SPEED UP, CASH FLOW SITUATION MAY DETERIORATE SEVERELY. USDEL SUMMARIZED AMOUNTS REQUESTED FOR ILO IN U.S. FY 1976 BUDGET, AND

D SAID HE COULD NOT ESTIMATE TIME OR NATURE OF FINAL CONGRESSIONAL ACTION. USSR REP CITED GENERAL DIFFICULTIES IN MAKING LARGE PAYMENTS, AND JAPANESE NOTED HIS COUNTRY WAS SUBJECTED TO HIGHEST RATE OF INCREASE OF ANY MEMBER THIS YEAR. FRG REP DECLINED COMMENT, BUT LATER INTIMATED TO US IN CONFIDENCE THAT FRG SLOWNESS IN PAYING REFLECTS ITS PIQUE AT BEING TAKEN FOR GRANTED BY THE ILO.

D. IN BUILDING SUBCOMMITTEE, USDEL RAISED FOR THE RECORD, QUESTION OF WHETHER ANY SPACE IN NEW ILO BUILDING IS RENTED TO COMMERCIAL FIRMS. DG'S REP JOHN RICHES SAID NO REPT NO. ONLY OFFICE SPACE BEING RENTED TO WHO AND GATI, AND RATE, ALTHOUGH PREFERENTIAL, MORE THAN COVERS COST OF CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICING. RICHES SAID IN VIEW OF FACT THAT MUCH OF BUILDING MATERIAL WAS IMPORTED DUTY FREE, IT WOULD NOT BE PROPER FOR ILO TO RENT COMMERCIALY. SPACE IS FRANCHISED FOR BANK, POST OFFICE, NEWSTAND, AND RESTAURANT, WHICH ARE CONSIDERED MORAL SERVICE FACILITIES FOR STAFF AND PARTICIPATES IN ILO MEETINGS, AND NOT REGARDED AS STRAIGHT COMMERCIAL RENTALS.

E. ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE REJECTED HAITIAN REQUEST FOR CANCELLATION OF MOST OF ITS OUTSTANDING DUES AND GRANTING OF PREFERENTIAL ASSESSMENT RATE FOR NEXT TEN YEARS. THE ILO ROUTINELY REJECTS SUCH REQUESTS. SWAZILAND, WHICH JOINED ILO MAY 20 VIA ITS U.S. MEMBERSHIP CHANNEL, WAS GRANTED MINIMUM RATE OF ASSESSMENT: .04 PERCENT FOR BALANCE OF CY 75; .03

PERCENT FOR CY UYN AND .02 PERCENT FOR CY 77.

F. POSTS OF CHIEF OF FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION SECTION AND

POPULATION AND LABOR POLICIES BRANCH WERE UPGRADED TO 0.1,
ILO PAYS FOR THE FORMER POSITION, UNFPA FOR THE LATTER. DALE
UNQUOTE
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